

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLUB

MEETING OF OCTOBER 19, 1938

The meeting held at The New York Botanical Garden was called to order by President Gunderson at 3:40 P.M. with 38 persons present.

The minutes were read and approved.

Dr. Gunderson stated that he had received a letter from Dr. John A. Small in response to his request that Dr. Small accept the appointment of Chairman of the Field Committee. Dr. Small thought the appointment should not be a hasty one.

Dr. Moldenke announced that Mr. Frank Place and Dr. William S. Thomas are acting as a committee to receive voluntary contributions for the Torrey Fund, the interest of which is to be used yearly.

The memorial service and unveiling of a monument erected in memory of Mr. Torrey, whose ashes are to be scattered by Mr. Frank Place on top of Long Mountain, will take place Sunday October 30 at 10 A.M.

The scientific program consisted of a report on the research work done by Mr. James W. Marvin on the Shape of the Pith Cells of *Eupatorium purpureum* and some related phenomena. The following is an abstract by the speaker:

"The shape of undifferentiated cells as they occur aggregated into tissues has for a long time been interpreted as largely a surface tension phenomenon. The Orthic Tetrakaidecahedron of Lord Kelvin with eight hexagonal and six square faces is considered by some to be the fundamental shape for undifferentiated cells.

In an experiment in which lead shot of equal size were compressed at various pressures, an increase in the number of contacts from slightly more than eight to about fourteen occurred; this shows that, in a system where surface tension plays a relatively small part, compression to the point where all of the spaces between the spheres are eliminated gives approximately fourteen contacts or faces per shot. However these shot had a relatively large number of pentagonal faces and were not orthic tetrakaidecahedra.

Pith cells of *Eupatorium purpureum* were examined also and three dimensional models of the cells were constructed. A study

of one hundred of these models showed them to have an average of slightly more than thirteen contacts per cell, and a large number of pentagonal faces."

CLYDE CHANDLER  
Recording Secretary

#### MEETING OF NOVEMBER 1, 1938

The meeting held at The American Museum of Natural History was called to order by President Gunderson at 8:15 P.M. with 41 persons present.

Dr. Thomas explained briefly that voluntary contributions are being received to establish a fund in memory of the late President Torrey. The interest from said fund is to be used each year to send a child to a camp in the country for two weeks.

Other business of the Club was deferred to the next regular meeting so that more time might be devoted to the scientific part of the program which consisted of a talk by Dr. H. B. Douglas on "Showy Flowers of Florida." Dr. Douglas showed Kodachrome slides of many of the flowers which have been introduced into Florida from various parts of the world.

CLYDE CHANDLER  
Recording Secretary

#### A CORRECTION

Volume 38, number 6, November-December, 1938 was published on January 19, 1939, not in December, 1938, as given on page 166 of Volume 38.